

FIFTH REVIEW -NOTICE OF INTENTION TO COMMENCE LARGE MINING OPERATIONS

Lakeview Rock Products
Beck Street Quarry

M/035/020
December 13, 2005

R647-4-106 - Operation Plan

106.6 Plan for protecting & redepositing soils

The second paragraph in Section 4.5 says the topsoil piles have been revegetated with volunteer species which protects them from erosion. This vegetation should be checked. Most of the time, "volunteer vegetation" means weeds that should not be on the topsoil piles. If the vegetation consists primarily of weeds, steps should be taken to establish long-term interim vegetation cover. (This is a suggestion, and there is no requirement to change the plan.) (PBB)

Sections 4.6 and 6.3 describe how soil would be recovered from about 12 acres . How would this soil be used in reclamation? (PBB)

Section 7.2 says that topsoil will be spread over the pit floor to a depth of 2-3 inches and incorporated with an organic mulch. From what source would this topsoil come? Is this the soil that would be harvested from the 12-acre area? If so, please describe how the soil would be transported. (PBB)

It appears that paragraph 3 in Section 7.5 conflicts with paragraph 6 in this same section and with Section 7.2. Section 7.2, as mentioned above, says topsoil will be spread over the pit floor. Paragraph 6 says available topsoil would be spread over the pit floor, but paragraph 3 in Section 7.5 says *in situ* pit floor material will be used as a growth medium on the pit floor and supplemented with organics. Please make the appropriate correction or explain this apparent discrepancy. (PBB)

The plan needs to contain a commitment to test material on the pit floor at the time of reclamation for parameters relating to plant growth. Tests that should be included are electrical conductivity, sodium adsorption ration, texture, and pH. One sample of surface material (not a composite sample) should be taken for about every five acres to determine whether there is material that will be deleterious to plant growth. If areas like this exist, it may be necessary to change the revegetation plan or perhaps to bury some of the soils. (PBB)

106.7 Existing vegetation - species and amount

The list of species on page 13 indicates skeletonleaf bursage, Dalmatian toadflax, and cheatgrass are noxious weeds, but this is not correct. These are all troublesome weeds, but they are not on the noxious weed list. (PBB)

R647-4-112 - Variance

Sections 4.6 and 6.3 describe how soil would be recovered from about 12 acres . Section 4.6 then requests a variance to the topsoil requirement. What variance is being sought? Is it for salvaging soil, or redistributing soil, or both? What is the justification for this variance, and what alternative methods will be used? (PBB)

The operator requests a variance from the revegetation cover standard for the pit floor. Instead of achieving 70 percent of the cover of adjacent areas, the pit floor would have 60 percent of the cover of nearby undisturbed areas. Before the Division grants this variance, the operator needs to clarify the plan concerning soil distribution on the pit floor then submit the justification and alternate methods required in R647-4-112. (PBB)

Highwall benches would be excluded from revegetation success standards although the operator would seed these areas. Given the nature of the highwalls following reclamation, this request is reasonable. If approved, the Division needs to grant this request in writing. (PBB)